

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 /049 W

-----051141Z 065260 /21

R 050930Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4784

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0582

AF/E FOR AMBASSADOR LOUGHRAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SO, US

SUBJ: THOUGHTS ON US POLICY TOWARD GSDR, ETC.

1. I HAVE REFRAINED FROM SEEKING APPOINTMENT WITH EITHER VICE
PRESIDENT KULMIYE OR DG ABDURAHMAN JAMA BARRE TO EXPLORE AMBASSADOR
ADDOU'S RECENT REQUEST FOR US ASSISTANCE, ALTHOUGH I THINK SOME
FAIRLY

HIGH-LEVEL FOLLOW-UP HERE IS DESIRABLE. I HAVE NOT DONE SO BECAUSE
I KNOW YOU WILL WANT SEE BOTH AND/OR PRESIDENT SIAD WHEN YOU RE-
TURN AND THERE IS ALWAYS RISK OF OVER-KILL WITH SOMALIS. ALSO
BECAUSE I

AM NOT ABLE TELL THEM ANYTHING ABOUT US REACTION TO REQUEST.
HOPEFULLY,

WASHINGTON POLICY REVIEW WILL BE SUFFICIENTLY FAR ADVANCED BY
APRIL 12 TO ENABLE YOU GIVE GSDR SOME ANSWER. DO YOU CONCUR ABOVE?

2. ALTHOUGH GSDR IS MAKING STUDIED EFFORT PORTRAY THINGS AS
UNCHANGED, AND THERE HAS BEEN NO LET-UP THUS FAR IN GSDR'S POSTER
AND RHETORICAL WAR ON "IMPERIALISM", FOR EXAMPLE, DIPLOMATIC
SITUATION HAS EVOLVED STRONGLY SINCE AMBASSADOR SEELYE'S VISIT
ONE MONTH AGO. I BELIEVE GSDR HAS RECEIVED SALUTARY LESSON IN
SELF-INTERESTEDNESS SOVIET ASSISTANCE AND WILL NOT RETURN
TO ITS PREVIOUS UNCRITICAL ATTACHMENT TO SOVIETS, WHATEVER
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OUTCOME PRESENT QUARREL OVER SOVIET

ROLE IN ETHIOPIA. US HAS OPPORTUNITY IMPROVE ITS POSITION IN SOMALIA
IF IT WISHES AND IS PREPARED PROCEED WITH MODERATE ARABS TO
PROVIDE FINANCIAL/TECHNICAL/MILITARY ALTERNATIVE TO ALL-OUT
DEPENDENCE ON SOVIETS. THIS NEED NOT MEAN SWITCHING HORSES FROM
ETHIOPIA TO SOMALIA BUT DOES MEAN MORE EVEN-HANDED US APPROACH
IN HORN OF AFRICA. INTERESTINGLY, CHINESE AMBASSADOR CHANG SHIH-

CHIEK GAVE ME VERY SIMILAR ANALYSIS DURING FRIENDLY DISCUSSION
APRIL 4, AND HE IS NOT THE FIRST.

3. ONE THING YOU MIGHT LOOK INTO IS CURRENT FOREIGN AFFAIRS
(ISSUE NO. 13) ITEM ENTITLED, "VOLATILE HORN OF AFRICA",
CONCERNING US POLICY REVIEW. DISCUSSION FOCUSES ON US REACTION
TO PRO-SOVIET TREND IN ETHIOPIA AND STATEMENT IS MADE THAT USG IS
EXAMINING "WHAT WE CAN DO TO STRENGTHEN COUNTRIES IN HORN, E.G.
SUDAN AND KENYA WHICH ARE FRIENDLY TO US. SOMALIA IS NOT MENTIONED
AS OBJECT US INTEREST. WAS THIS SIGNIFICANT?

4. I'VE BEEN ASKED TO TRANSMIT BEST WISHES OF NUMEROUS
AMBASSADORS AND FRIENDS, INCLUDING KULMIYE, WHO, WHEN TOLD YOU
HAD NOT HAD OPERATION, ASKED THAT YOU BRING SOME OF YOUR MEDICATION
FOR HIS WIFE WHO SUFFERS FROM "GALL STONES". REGARDS TO
YOU AND KATHY.
JACOBS

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